Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Allison Pinzon, I am a student from Connecticut River Academy. I am documented.

I stand in support of S.B. No. 284: "AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS," with clear language that extends eligibility to all HUSKY programs to all CT residents, regardless of immigration status.

I am a resident from East Hampton Connecticut and I have been living in Connecticut for my entire living however, my parents have not. My mother moved to Connecticut at 16 years old and My father at the age of 19. Both of my parents were born and raised from Cali, Colombia and both moved to the United States for a better life and future since there are better opportunities for schooling and jobs here.

In the perspective of a daughter who came from a third world country, I am extremely grateful everyday with the privileges I have. My family fortunately does have access to healthcare and insurance and we specifically have access to Husky Healthcare. Even though I have the privilege of having access to healthcare I believe everyone should have the same access. About a month ago I got into a car accident and was rushed to the hospital immediately. Thankfully I am healthy and healed with the help of health insurance because after the accident my parents were able to move on from the problem financially. Putting myself in the shoes of someone who doesn't have healthcare would have to pay off the hospital bill for years from the accident, for this I am grateful and motivated to expand Husky. Having healthcare would mean a healthier community and less bills for people with a lower income. For those who don't have access to healthcare will walk around sick and risk the lives of theirs and others to avoid financial issues to see a doctor or attend to a hospital.

Overall this bill would help families be healthy and happy. My family's lives changed completely from moving to the United States. With the problems Colombia suffers today doesn't compare to Connecticut's situations but this isn't an excuse to continue change.

I support S.B. No 284 with clear language to extend current HUSKY eligibility rules to all CT residents, regardless of immigration status, and I ask the committee to support this legislation.

Thank you for your time, Allison Pinzon